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The practical values and applications of each phase are treated as soon as a topic is completed. Generally this is done in a special chapter, although in some instances it is taken care of in the discussion of the topic. This arrangement is a very commendable feature of the book. It reduces to a minimum the difficulty of seeing relations between plants and their economic values, whereas if the applications are left to the end of the course there is greater possibility for confusion.

The facts are well chosen and organized. They are stated in concise yet clear English. Enough detail is given to make the topics plain; the illustrations are carefully selected. For those schools that give only short courses this book no doubt will be found to be very serviceable. The introduction of the biography of some of the mileposts of botany is a good feature. These, if studied in their proper relations to plants, will certainly give the pupils a greater appreciation of the work in botany.

CHARLES E. MONTGOMERY

Vocations for the Trained Woman. By the Woman's Educational AND INDUSTRIAL UNION. New York: Longmans, Green & Co. 8vo, pp. xiv+175. \$1.50, postage 16 cents.

This book is Part II of Vol. I in a series of studies in the economic relations of women being conducted by the department of research of the Woman's Educational and Industrial Union of Boston.

It treats specifically four vocations—agriculture, social service, secretarial service, and the business of real estate. Each study is based upon a specific survey, that of agriculture being limited to the state of Massachusetts, social service to New England cities and towns, real estate to the city of Boston and suburbs. The study of secretarial service includes cases from various parts of the United States.

The study of agriculture includes not only its general phases, but also poultry-raising, beekeeping, market gardening, dairying, greenhouse culture, and nursery culture. General conditions in each business are discussed, showing the difficulties and pointing out the qualifications necessary to success. Special attention is given to the peculiar problems to be met by women undertaking each kind of work.

In the field of agriculture it appears that poultry-raising offers exceptional advantages for women. Social work is a field of service for which women are pre-eminently fitted. While it does not command unusually high salaries, it offers other compensation. "The whole field of special service is demanding specialized training, and the day is not far distant when untrained workers will be welcome only as volunteers."

It appears that certain phases of the real-estate business offer excellent opportunities for the trained woman. It is believed that women are much better adapted to the renting of houses for residences than are men. Experi-

ence has demonstrated that women may do well in this and other phases of the real-estate business, especially in placing loans and mortgages.

In this field there is to be noted the difficulty of obtaining initial experience and the fact that this is most easily secured through the position of stenographer or secretary.

The book will find its place in the rapidly growing material which is being prepared for the vocational guidance of young women.

Classbook of Old Testament History. By George Hodges. New York: Macmillan, 1913. \$0.90.

This little book embodies the conservative results of recent Old Testament discoveries and scholarship. Its purpose is: "To reconet the Old Testament history in order and with clearness, and to bring to its interpretation the words of contemporary inscription and poetry and prophecy, for the better understanding of the Bible." It follows the Hebrews out of Mesopotamia into Egypt; out of Egypt into Palestine; gives a description of the United Kingdom; traces the course of events from the revolution of Jeroboam to the revolution of Jehu, from the fall of Samaria to the fall of Jerusalem; and under foreign rulers.

Dr. Hodges has attained his purpose, and we have an attractive story running through more than two hundred pages, beginning with Genesis and closing with events just after Ezra and Nehemiah.

The book was written for general readers and young people. Continual references are given to the passages which the paragraphs summarize and interpret. There are two maps, tables of dates, and an excellent index.

J. W. Moncrief

University of Chicago

Elementary Applied Chemistry. By Lewis B. Allyn, Department of Chemistry, State Normal School, Westfield, Massachusetts. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1912. Cloth, pp. xi+127.

Various school journals, for months past, have published articles dealing with the unusual opportunity which the chemistry teacher has to exalt the practical side of the school, and perform real services for the community. Chemistry as a basis for formal discipline meets with the approval of none of these modern writers. It is in the spirit of these views that this little book is written, and its purpose cannot be better stated than by quoting a sentence from a recent paper read by its author at an educational meeting: "Where can be found a more enthusiastic body of investigators than a class of chemistry students who do their work by the method of the beckoning hand rather than by the method of the clenched fist?"

This book is an invitation to a student to select his "unknowns" from home materials. Dealing, as it does, with practical tests upon substantially